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May 2, 2013 ***11:20 a.m. UPDATE***
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact: State Patrol Regional Post 715-839-3800 Chris Ouellette, NW Region Communication Manager 715-828-9471

Travel not advised still recommended in parts of Northwest Region Heavy, wet snow still a challenge

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation, along with the State Patrol, continue to ask motorists to refrain from travelling unless absolutely necessary throughout most of the region this afternoon.

As of 11 a.m. the Northwest Region State Patrol reported approximately 40-50 run offs and slide-ins on I-94 from Eau Claire to Hudson. Until the snowfall ends and it is safe to do so, the State Patrol is not allowing tow trucks to remove vehicles from ditches. Stranded motorists are being taken to a safe shelter until their cars can be removed.

Highway crews are plowing state highways and will continue throughout the day. However, the heavy snow has also been difficult to move out of the way. In addition, trees and branches that have fallen on some highways because of the snow are also slowing down the plowing operations.

If you must travel, check winter road conditions before leaving home by calling 5-1-1 or visiting 511wi.gov. Winter driving tips can be found on WisDOT's Web site:

http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/motorist/winterdriving/index.htm

Traffic updates are also posted at:

https://twitter.com/#!/511WI Northwest

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